40-Tob-23 U. S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Adjustment Administration Tobacco Section September 1939



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TOBACCO SITUATION 1914 AND TODAY

Contrary to popular opinion the world consumption of flue-cured tobacco did not increase materially during the last world war. It was not until 1918 that a significant growth of consumption took place. In 1914, at the cutbreak of the War, flue-cured tobacco prices dropped considerably below 1913 prices, and it was not until 1916—the third year of the War—that prices moved upward. Production in 1939 was more than 200 million pounds in excess of world consumption and the present total supply in this country is the largest of record.

Table 1. Tobacco, Flue-cured: Acreage, Yield, Price, Value, Production Stocks, Supply, and Disappearance, 1909 - 1939

	· Aancama	:Yield:	Project	Tro mm		:Stocks :	Supply:	Disap-
Year	:Acreage :Harves-	: per :		: Farm : : Value :	Production		July 1	pear-
Tear	ted:	: per :	404		FIOGGOULOII	:	Buzy 1	ance
		(ACLG :	Forma	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	1,000	The	Canta	Dollars	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
	Acres	Lbs.	Cents	DOTTER	rounds	E C Linkship and Commence	TO CONTRACTOR	The Committee of the
1909	341.9	651	9.2	20.5	222.5			
1010	320.0	646	10.3	21.2	206.8			
1911	239.0	737	11.3	19.9	176.2		1	
1912	310.0	605	15.6	20.2	187,6		•	
1913	405.0	698	18.3	51.6	282.8	241.2 1/	524.0	259.6
1914	425.0	648	11.3	31.1	275.4	264.4 1/	539.8	231.2
1915	` 495.0	630	10.5	32.9	312.0	308.6 1/	620.6	298.2
1916	470.0	560	19.0	50.1	263.3	322.4 1/	585.7	292.1
1917	560.0	641	30.5	109.8	358.8	293.6	652.4	309.7
1918	686.0	710	34.3	166.8	487.1	342.7	829,8	450.2
1919	811.5	588	44.4	211.8	476.9	379.6	856.5	504.0
1920	908.9	678	21.5	132.5	616.0	352.5	968.5	410.7
1921	611.5	587	21.9	78.7	358.8	557.8	916,6	403.3
1922	659.5	630	27.2	112.8	415.4	513.3	928.7	421.0
1923	804.8	722	20.8	120.7	580.7	507.7	1,088.4	542.8
1924	784.5	580	21.6	94.5	437.3	545.6	982.9	456.5
1925	835.1	689	20.0	115.0	575.1	526.4	1,101.5	577.8
1926	800.7	699	24.9	139.7	560.1	523.7	1,083,8	544.9
1927	958.3	750	20.5	147.3	71.8.8	538.9	1,257.7	599.8
1928	1,119.9	660	17.3	128.1	739.1	657,9	1,397.0	708.2
1929	1,085.7	691	18.0	134.9	750.0	688.8	1,438.8	735.4
1930	1,144.2	756	12.0	103.4	865.2	703.4	1,568.6	774.1
1931	979.5	684	8.4	56.4	669.5	794.5	1,464.0	597.0
1932	617.5	605	11.6	43.4	373.7	867.0	1,240.7	564.9
1933	920.6	797	15.3	112.1	733.4	675.8	1,409.2	646.2
1934	684.2	814	27.3	151.7	556.8	763.0	1,319.8	567.2
1935	874.0	928	20.0	162.3	811.2	752.6	1,563.8	692.5
1936	864.5	790	22.2	151.6	682.9	871.3	1,554.2	671.0
1937	989.5	875	23.0	199.2	866.3	883.2	1,749.5	795.0
1938	912.1	861	22.2	174.4	785.7	954.5	1,740.2	794.0
1939					1,014.7 1/	946.2	1,960.9	

^{1/} Estimate

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EXCESS PRODUCTION METANS LOSS OF FARM INCOME

During the first six weeks of the 1939 marketing season flue-cured tobacco growers sold approximately one-third more tobacco for 10 percent less money than during the same period last year. The average price was 7-1/2 cents per pound less. Prices during the first week of September, just before the closing of markets, were still lower.

With the withdrawal of British buyers, the impossibility of maintaining even this level of prices is indicated by the action of other buying interests in closing the markets.

Table 2. Tobacco, Flue-cured: Producers Sales, Value and Average Price for Season to September 1, 1939 and 1938

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		1939		•	1938	
	Pounds Sold	Value	Average Price per Pound	Pounds Sold	Value	Average Price per Pound
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Dollars	Cents	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Dollars	Cents
Ga Fla. Belt: Georgia Florida Total	101,336 14,870 116,206	12,982 1,807 14,789	12.81 12.15 12.73	94,877 10,989 105,866	19,295 2,235 21,530	20.34 20.34 20.34
South Carol North Carol Total		12,267 13,251 25,518	15.97 16.93 16.45	58,684 56,056 114,740	14,003 13,745 27,748	23.86 24.52 24.18
Eastern N. Caroli	na <u>64,820</u>	9,710	14.98	27,032	6,142	22.72
Total	336,130	50,017	14.88	247,638	55,420	22.38

IMPORTANCE OF EXPORTS

Exports of United States flue-cured tobacco during the 1937 and 1938 crop years averaged 426 million pounds and were the fourth highest on record. Exports to Great Britain, our best foreign customer amounted to an average of 275 million pounds, or 64 percent of the total exports, during 1937 and 1938. The withdrawal of British buyers from the market on September 8, 1939, created a serious problem for flue-cured growers.

Table 3. Flue-Cured (11-14) Tobacco: Estimated Farm Sales Weight of Exports to Principal Countries 1926 to Date

Year									Marikan er egi minerikansisindan gariantuytas ayaa d
Be-				Exported as	Leaf To	bacco To			
gin-	Thesa	ì c	•	*	*	en in terminal control of the contro	4		ţ
ning July	1						7 77 12	All	
1	dom	China	Janan	Australia	Canada	Germany	Nether- lands	Other Countries	Total
	: Mill.	Mill.	Mill.	: Mill.	Mill.	Mill.	Mill.	Mill.	Mill.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
3026	1000	04.0						t contraction	
1926	•	84.2	9.8	23.8	15.1	13.0	8.0	29.2	348.4
1928	206.8	150.7	4	24.9 21.1	17.3	15.5	9.7	41.9	391.9
1929	223.8	149.4		22.4	15.7	16.0	10.9	49.2 69.2	48 8 .9 511.1
1930	223.5	173.3		26.7	12.9	15.1	8.8	50.5	524.9
		7						55.0	0~1,5
1931		91.5	5.3	12.7	12.3	9.8	11.2	45.4	343.4
1932 1933	4	90.0	5.8	10.0	8.6	5.2	5.6	41.0	319.1
1934		99.3	9.3	12.6 17.5	9.3	9.8	13.5	36.9	389.3
1935		27.4	7.8	21.1	9.2	1.6 7.8	4.2 8.3	36.4	292.5
				~1.1	4.4	7.0	0.0	35.8	377.4
1936	•	46.3	11.8	22.3	4.4	3.4	10.5	56.5	357.6
1937		°41.7	2.3	21.0	4.3	5.6	9.3	62.1	426.0
1938	269.9 % of	59.7 % of		24.4	3.3	6.4	7.2	55.8	426,7
	Total	Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of	% of	% of :	% of	
		10001	10001	10081	Total	Total	Total	Total	
1926	47.4	24.2	2.8	6.8	4.3	3.7	2.4	8.4	
1927	48.7	20.0	* 3.4	6.4	4.4	3.9	2.5	10.7	
1928	42.3	30.8	3.5	4.3	3.5	3.3	2.2	10.1	
1929	43.8 42.6	29.2	2.3		3.1	2.0	1.7	13.5	
1300	±0.0	00.0	2.6	5.1	2.5	2.9	1.7	9.6	
1931	45.2	26.6	1.5	3.7	3.6	2.9	3.3	13.2	
1932	47.9	28.2	1.8	3.1	2.7	1.6	1.8	12.9	
1933	51.0	25.5	2.4	3.2	2.4	2.5	3.5	9.5	
1934	62,3	10.3	3,9	6.0	3.1	.6	1.4	12.4	
1935	70.2	7.3	2.1	5.6	1.2	2.0	2.2	9.4	
1936	56.6	12.9	3.3	6.2	1 2	1.0	7.0	25.0	
1937	65.7	9.8	.5	4.9	1.2	1.0	3.0	15.8	
1938	63.3	14.0		5.7	.8	1.5	1.7	14.6	

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DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION

In 1919 only 82 million pounds of the U. S. flue-cured tobacco crop was used domestically in cigarettes, while in 1938, 285 million pounds were used in cigarettes. Although the total consumption of flue-cured tobacco in this country is still increasing, the rate of increase has slowed down considerably since 1936. The increase in 1936 was 8.7 percent over 1935, while in 1938 the increase over 1937 was only 1.5 per cent.

Tobacco, Flue-cured: Estimated Quantities Consumed in Cigarettes, Smoking Tobacco, and Chewing Tobacco, 1919 - 1938

Market- ing Yr. Begin- ning July 1	Cigarettes		Smoking	Tobacco	Chewing	Tobacco	Total	Increase or De- crease from Previous Year
	Million	Percent	Million	Percent	Million	Percent	Million	
	Pounds	of Total	Pounds	of Total	Pounds	of Total	Pounds	Percent
1919	82.3	54.3	36.2	23.9	33.1	21.8	151.6	
1920	73.6	56.0	33.5	25.5	24.3	18.5	131.5	- 13.3
1921	81.8	54.6	44.4	29.6	23.6	15.8	149.8	+ 13.9
1922	102.1	60.9	39.9	23.8	25.6	15.3	167.6	+ 11.9
1923	113.9	65.3	36.5	20.9	24.1	13.8	174.5	+ 4.1
1924	125.5	67.3	38.2	20.5	22.7	12.2	186.4	+ 6.8
1925	141.7	70.2	37.2	18.4	22.9	11.4	201.8	+ 8.3
								ž.
1926	153.8	73.7	33.5	16.0	21.5	10.3	208.8	+ 3.5
1927	165.9	76.0	31.7	14.5	20.7	9.5	218.3	+ 4.5
1928	189.2	79.3	29.0	12.2	20.2	8.5	238.4	+ 9.2
1929	201.7	80.7	29.6	11.8	18.8	7.5	250.1	+ 4.9
1930	201.2	80.2	32.9	13.1	16.7	6.7	250.8	+ 0.3
	202.0	00.0	0.5,0	2012	2.001		200.0	
1931	176.2	73.3	50.2	20.9	14.0	5.8	240.4	- 4.1
1932	182.3	72.3	57.2	22.7	12.7	5.0	252.2	+ 4.9
1933	196.4	72.5	61.5	22.7	13.0	4.8	270.9	+ 7.4
1934	217.4	75.2	59.2	20.5	12.5	4.3	289.1	+ 6.7
1935	239.6	77.2	58.7	18.9	12.2	3.9	310.5	+ 7.4
1300	203.0	11.2		10.0	40.0	0.5	010,0	
1936	267.8	79.3	57.5	17.0	12.3	3.7	337.6	+ 8.7
1937	278.7	80.3	57.0	16.4	11.5	3.3	347.2	+ 2.8
1938	284.7	80.8	56.8	16.1	11.0	3.1	352.5	+ 1.5
1000	204.1	00.0	00.0	TOT	11.0	3,1	302.0	7 1.0
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FOREIGN PRODUCTION

increased materially. High tariff rates provented forcing constries from selling goods in the United States production in other countries. In some countries tobacco was placed under control of a government monopoly. change. Beginning in 1930, as trade conditions becrae increasingly worse, production in foreign countries to obtain money with which to buy our products and muticablistic policies were adopted which encouraged From 1924 to 1929, production of flue-cured tobacco in foreign countries showed no significant In other countries extremely high import duties were placed on United States tobacco.

Table 5--Tobacco, Flue-cured: Estimated Production in Specified Foreign Countries, 1924-1938

	4	1					
	Total 11	Million pounds	93.9	75.51	(3.9 81.1 131.4	195.6 198.1 268.6 256.4 309.0	317.8
	Dutch East	ono			덕평.	ua wa w	01 to
	Canada	Willion pounds	10 M	M 0 1	100°	24.5 27.6 26.9 25.1 35.2	25. 75. 75. 75.
	Southern Australia Canada	Willion	1.0	N W M	0 - 0	10 01 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	, n o u
	Southern	Million pounds	0 m	18.5 24.3	150 150	25.09 19.09 19.09	8538
	Nyasaland	Million pounds	サオ	400	1000 umai	1000H	2000
	India No	Million pounds			H H	111 G P	19.5 40.0 45.0
	Chosen Formosa	Million			io io	45010	1 9 W
	Chosen	Million	のい	7 100	1010	27.00.00	7.62
	a'Japan	Million	10 % 10 %	577	15.1	23.72 14.6.3.7 51.53	45 662 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60
	China Menchuria Japan	Million				a a a w w w	12.51
and the second second second second	China	Million	70.0	23. K	3 KG CG	111.0 104.0 149.0 140.0 163.0	180.0 210.0 81.5
	Year		1924 1925	1926 1927 1928	1929	1931 1932 1933 1934 1935	1936 1937 1938 1/

Increased domestic demand for flue-cured tobacco has been dependent upon the increased use of cigarettes since 1909. The use of flue-cured in chewing and smoking tobacco has decreased. Whenever use of cigarettes decreases as in 1930 and 1931, and whenever the rate of increase in the use of cigarettes drops as in 1937 and 1938, it means weaker demand and need for less flue-cured tobacco by domestic manufacturers.

Table 6--Tax-paid Withdrawals of Cigarettes, and Chewing and Smoking Tobacco, 1909-1938

	-			
	• •			ng and
-	Cigar	cttes	Smoking	Tobacco
Year		Increase		Increase
Beginning		or De-		or De-
July 1	Quantity	crease	Quantity	crease
		From Pre-		From Pre-
		vious Yr.		vious Yr.
	hilliam		million	
	billion	percent	pounds	percent
1909	7.9	*	436.6	•
1910	9.3	+17.7	380 ∙8	-12.8
1911	11.2	+20.4	393.8	+ 3.4
1912	14.3	+27.7	404.4	+ 2.7
1913	16.4	+14.7	412.5	+ 2:0
1914	16.8	+ 2.4	402.5	- 2.4
1915	21.1	+25.6	417.2	+ 3.7
1916	30.5	+7174.2	445.8	+ 6.9
1917	37.0	+21.3	417.6	- 6.3
1918	38.1	+ 3.0	37,7.0	- 9.7
1919	50.4	+32.3	414.9	+10.1
1920	45.1	-10.5	329.6	-20.6
1921 1922	50.1	+11.1	368.6	+11.8
1.923	60.9	+21.6	382.5	+ 3.8
1924	67.9	+11.5	370.6	- 3.1
1935	75.0 85.0	+10.5	371.8	+ 0.3
1926	93.0	+13.3 + 9.4	376.2	+ 1.2
1927	100.6	+ 8.2	361.7 348.7	- 3.9
1928	114.0	+13.3	339.8	- 3.6
1929	120.0	+ 5.3	333•8	- 2.6 - 1.8
1930	119.7	- 0.3	324.3	- 2.8
1931	105.9	-11.5	322.4	- 0.6
1932	109.4	+ 3.3	307.8	- 4.5
1933	116.6	+ 6.6	307.2	- 0.2
1934	128.5	+10.2	302.0	- 1.7
1935	141.8	+10.3	307.8	+ 1.9
1936	158.7	+11.9	305.7	- 0.7
1937	164.4	+ 3.6	299.9	- 1.9
1938	168.0	+ 5.2	304.2	+ 1.4

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PRICES BY GRADES

With a surplus of more than 200 million pounds from the large 1939 crop, average prices before the closing of the markets were materially lower for practically all grades of flue-cured tobacco than in 1938. With the British buyers out of the market, prices for the grades which they usually buy likely would have gone to very low levels had the markets not been closed by buyers and warehousemen until plans could be made to meet the situation. A collapse of prices for these grades would have tended to cause material decreases in prices for other grades.

Table 7. Flue-cured Tobacco: Season Average Prices, by Grades, by Types; 1939 and 1938

			(I	ollars per	100	Pounds)				
U. S.:	Georgi	a-Florida	: Bo	rder Belt	:	Eastern C	arolina	:	Middl	e Belt
Grade:	Ty	pe 14	:	Type 13	:	: Type 12		:	Typ	e 11(b)
:	1939	: 1938	: 1939	1/: 1938	:	1939 1/:	1938	:	1939 2	/: 1938
:		:	:		:	÷		:	_	
Leaf:										
BZL	22.00	29.00	28.0	0 31.00		26,00	38.00			33.00
B2F	20.00	28.00	27.0	0 30.00		24.50	35.00		-	32.00
B3L	19.50	24.50	24.5	0 27.00		24.00	32.00		and Smile	28.00
B3F	17.00	23.00	21.5	0 25.00		20.50	29.00			27.00
B4L	16.50	19.50	20.5	0 22.00		20.00	27.00		18.50	23.00
B4F	13.75	16.50	17.5	0 19.50		17.00	23.50		13.25	21.50
B5L	13.00	13.25	15.5	0 17.00		16.00	21.50		14.00	19.50
B5F	10.25	11.00	12.7	5 14.75		12.75	17.50		10.50	16.50
~ 11										
Cutter										
CSL		****		35.00			46.00			39.00
CZF				34.00			41.00			38.00
C3L	24.50	33.00	29.0			28.00	38.00			35.00
CSF	22.50	33.00	29.0			26.00	36.00		and and	34.00
C4L	22.00	32.00	26.0			26.00	34.00			32.00
G4F	21.50	30.00	25.0			24.00	33.00			31.00
C5L	20.50	29.00	24.0			23.50	30.00			28.00
C 5F	19.00	27.00	22.5	0 26.00		22.00	29.00		god one	28.00
Lugs:										
X1L	21.50	31.00	24.5	0 30.00		24 50	77 00		00 00	TO 00
XlF	21.00	30.00	24.0			24.50	31.00		26.00	30.00
XZL	19.50	28.00				23.50	31.00		27 00	30.00
XZF	19.00		22.5			22.50	29.00		23.00	28.00
		27.00	22.0			21.50	28.00		22.75	27.00
X3L	17.50	24.50	19.5			19.50	26.00		20.00	25.00
X3F	16.00	23.00	18.5			17.50	24.50		18.75	24.00
X4L	13.00	18.00	15.0			14.25	21.50		14.50	21.00
X4F	11.25	16.50	13.7		0	12.50	20.00		12.50	19.50
X5L	9.00	11.25	11.0			1.0.00	16.00			15.50
X5F	7.00	9.25	9.7	12.25		8.50	14.50		7.50	14.50

^{1/} Season through Sept. 7, 1939.

^{2/} Simple average of two day's sale (Sept. 11 and 12, 1939).

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EXCESSIVE TOBACCO PRODUCTION IN 1939

Increased plantings were made in 1939 in all parts of the tobacco belt. These increases were about the same in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. In North Carolina the increases were about the same in each of the different belts—the Old Belt, Middle Belt, Eastern Belt and Border Belt.

Table 8.- Tobacco, Flue-cured: Comparison of State Acreage Allotments
With Acreage Harvested, in 1938 and 1939

	•	1938	1939 1			
	: Acreage :Harvested	:Percentage :of Allot- :ment Harves :ted	: Acreage	: Percentage : of Allot- : ment Harves : ted		
	acres	percent	acres	percent		
Virginia	101,000	110.4	130,000	145.5		
North Carolina	603,500	102.3	832,000	143.0		
South Carolina	104,000	109.5	137,000	143.7		
Georgia	87,000	104.8	123,000	143.8		
Florida	16.300	119.0	27,600	185.0		
Alabama	300	75.0	400	81.8		
	*					
U. S.	912,100	104.4	1,250,000	144.4		

^{1/} Preliminary estimate based upon a partial summary of A.A.A. performance records.

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